



SOCIAL SECURITY INFORMATION CENTER
U.S. Department of the Treasury
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www.StrengtheningSocialSecurity.gov

STRENGTHENING SOCIAL SECURITY: BY THE NUMBERS

Number of Americans nationwide who are outside of Social Security and have the option to invest in voluntary personal accounts¹:

Five million

Percentage of Ohio's public employees who are exempt from Social Security and participate in plans outside the system²:

97 percent

Number of states where residents have chosen to participate in alternative retirement plans that offer additional opportunities to build savings for their retirement, including higher rates of return and greater flexibility³:

50

Rate of return that a typical individual worker gets on Social Security⁴:

1.8 percent

Rate of return that money in the federal government's Thrift Savings Plan, which is invested in a conservative mix of bonds and stock, earns over time:

Over 7 percent

Amount of the nest egg that a worker making \$35,000 over his or her lifetime, who invests 4 percent of payroll taxes into a personal savings account, would own over time in a conservative mix of bonds and stocks:

Nearly \$250,000

¹ White House Fact Sheet, "Millions Enjoy Ownership and Control Outside Social Security," April 15, 2005. [Read the fact sheet.](#)

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ President George W. Bush, April 15, 2005. [Read the President's remarks.](#)